GreenPower News

A weekly update from Western's Renewable Resources Program covering green power, reports and studies and funding.

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Green Power

Top Ten Utility Green Power Programs

(As of December 2012)

Which utilities are having the greatest success with their green power programs? NREL has compiled extensive data on utility green power programs and produced the following "Top Ten" lists of program characteristics and results: total sales of renewable energy to program participants; total number of customer participants; customer participation rates; percentage of renewable energy in total retail sales; the lowest premium charged to support new renewables development; and utilities using at least two percent solar to supply their green pricing programs. Read more. *Source: The Green Power Network, 6/5/13*

Wind Power Creates Jobs, Saves Money

Recently you saw on our Facebook page some important clean energy news. MidAmerican Energy Company announced plans to invest $1.9 billion in wind energy projects in Iowa. The power company plans to install 656 wind turbines throughout the state, adding 1,050 megawatts of wind generation. Read more. *Source: Huffingtonpost Green, 5/28/13*

Visit U.S. DOE EERE Green Power Network for more information.

Reports, studies and policy

Recorded transmission grid integration webinars online

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory periodically offers webinars on transmission grid integration topics to provide insight into its research. Recordings of past webinars are available to download. Read more. *Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 6/5/13*

NREL models analyze renewable, efficiency technologies

Use models and tools developed or supported by National Renewable Energy Laboratory to assess, analyze, and optimize renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies for your project. Many of these tools can be applied on a global, regional, local, or project basis. NREL models and tools include several designed for the consumer or energy professional. Read more. *Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 6/6/13*

Renewable Electricity Futures Study

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory's *Renewable Electricity Futures Study (RE Futures)* is an initial investigation of the extent to which renewable energy supply can meet the electricity demands of the continental United States over the next several decades. This study explores the implications and challenges of very high renewable electricity generation levels—from 30 percent up to 90 percent, focusing on 80 percent, of all U.S. electricity generation—in 2050. At such high levels of renewable electricity generation, the unique characteristics of some renewable resources, specifically geographical distribution and variability and uncertainty in output, pose challenges to the operability of the nation's electric system. Read more. *Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 6/6/13*

Blue Ribbon Panel Recommendations Report

The Department of Energy's Geothermal Technologies Office (formerly Geothermal Technologies Program) assembled a geothermal Blue Ribbon Panel on March 22-23, 2011 in Albuquerque, N.M. for a guided discussion on the future of geothermal energy in the United States and the role of the DOE office. The Geothermal Blue Ribbon Panel Report captures the discussions and recommendations of the experts. Read more. *Source: DOE EERE Geothermal Technologies Office, 6/5/13*

FY 2014 Department of Energy Budget Highlights

The President's 2014 Budget for the Department of Energy advances the energy, environmental, and nuclear security of the United States; promotes scientific and technical innovation in support of that mission; and ensures environmental cleanup of the nuclear weapons complex. It continues to facilitate many of the President's highest priorities, including cutting carbon pollution, increasing climate preparedness, supporting clean energy and innovation, and reducing the threat of nuclear weapons, which are critical to job creation, long-term economic growth, and national security. Read more. *Source: U.S. Department of Energy, 6/3/13*

Clean Energy States Alliance

CESA is a national nonprofit coalition of state and municipal clean energy funds working with Federal, regional, industry and other stakeholders to promote clean energy markets and technologies. *Source: Clean Energy States Alliance, 6/3/13*

NREL Energy Analysis Newsletter for June 2013

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) aims to provide credible, objective data and insights that inform policy and investment decisions as energy efficient and renewable energy technologies advance from concept to commercial application. NREL analysis encompasses a broad range of scientific research and reporting activity in support of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), NREL programs and initiatives, and the analysis community.

This month:

- NREL report evaluates the benefits of electricity storage
- FRED visualizes energy data
- U.S. residential and commercial building load profiles on OpenEI
- NREL analysis and analysts in the news
- Recent publications

Read more. *Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 6/1/13*

Interconnection: A Foundational Policy for Solar Market Expansion

Last month Interstate Reneable Energy Council issued an update to its Model Interconnection Procedures, which were last updated in 2009. Since then, the market has seen incredible growth, which has triggered interconnection reform in several high growth states. In fact, the Solar Electric Power Association recently reported that California's Pacific Gas and Electric alone interconnected more than 17,500 net-metered systems in 2012. IREC based this updated model on evolving best practices that have developed from recent state rulemakings across the country, particularly in California, Hawaii and Massachusetts. Read more. *Source: Interstate Renewable Energy Council, 5/14/13*

US hits 7.7 GW of cumulative PV capacity

On the back of another record year for the U.S. PV market, which saw 3.31 GW installed, 2013 forecasts are for 4.3 GW of new capacity. However, while utility-scale projects dominated the PV landscape in 2012, the sector is not expected to lead this year. Three future trends have further been identified. Read more. *Source: PV Magazine, 3/14/13*

Find more publications and webinars.

Funding

Funding Opportunities for Tribes

The Tribal Energy Program, in collaboration with DOE's Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, is currently seeking applications for funding from Indian tribes, tribal energy resource development organizations, and tribal consortia to install community and facility-scale clean energy projects on Indian lands. For more, see the Progress Alert. Read more. *Source: DOE Tribal Energy Program, 6/6/13*

DOE Amends Funding Announcements for Tribal Clean Energy Projects

The Energy Department has amended the two Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) issued April 30, 2013. The purpose of the amendment is to omit the word "fossil," such that the reduction of any fuel used in tribal buildings is eligible (regardless of whether the fuel is fossil-based or renewable).

Through these FOAs, the Energy Department is continuing its efforts to promote tribal energy sufficiency and to spur increased renewable energy and energy efficiency deployment on Indian lands. Under these FOAs, the Energy Department's Tribal Energy Program, in cooperation with the Office of Indian Energy, is soliciting applications from Indian Tribes, tribal energy resource development organizations, and tribal consortia to install community- or facility-scale clean energy projects to provide electricity and/or heating and cooling for local use in tribal buildings. Read more. *Source: DOE Tribal Energy Program, 5/30/13*

Find more funding sources.